



Volume 1, Issue 02

# Ouranophantor

February 2018

*A Newsletter of St. Basil Greek Orthodox Church*

## THE MEETING OF OUR LORD



# St. Basil Greek Orthodox Church

733 Ashland Avenue, Chicago, IL 60607

[www.stbasilchicago.org](http://www.stbasilchicago.org)



Church Office:

Rev. Fr. Dimitri Tobias, *Proistamenos*

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Parish Council President:

Jayme Schenk

## Worship Hours

**Sundays:** Orthros 8:15 a.m. followed by Divine Liturgy

**Weekdays:** Divine Liturgy 8:30 a.m.

**Esperinos:** For Major Feasts 6:00 p.m.

**Wednesday:** Paraklesis Service 6:00 p.m.

## Upcoming Events

- St. Basil Super Bash at Billy Goat Tavern: Sunday, February 4th at 4:00 p.m
- 
- Apokreatiko Glendi: February 11th following Divine Liturgy

For more information:

[www.stbasilchicago.org](http://www.stbasilchicago.org) or contact church office at 312-243-3738.

## We welcome new families to our parish!

Now is the time to reach out to your loved ones who have fallen away for whatever reason and bring them back to Church. Now is the time to share your faith with others! Together we must grow. Together we must build the Body of Christ. Invite someone to a service or to a Church event. We have one of the friendliest communities in the Archdiocese. Let us go out so that

## Follow on Facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/St-Basil-Greek-Orthodox-Church-476775679041438/>



# Sacraments and Blessings

## Baptisms:



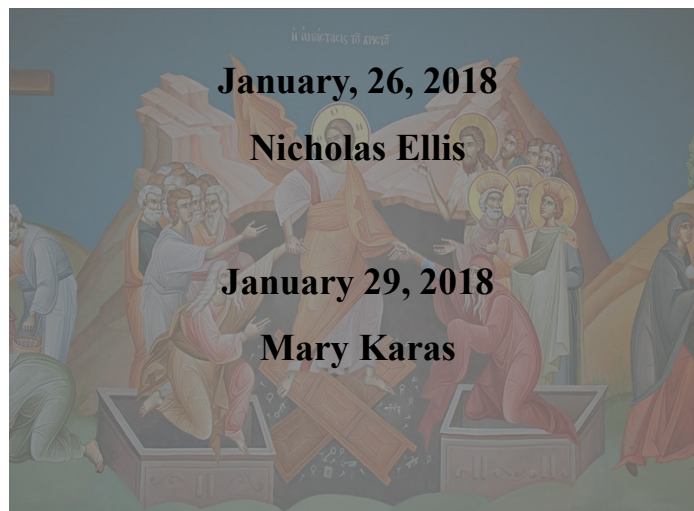
## Chrismations:



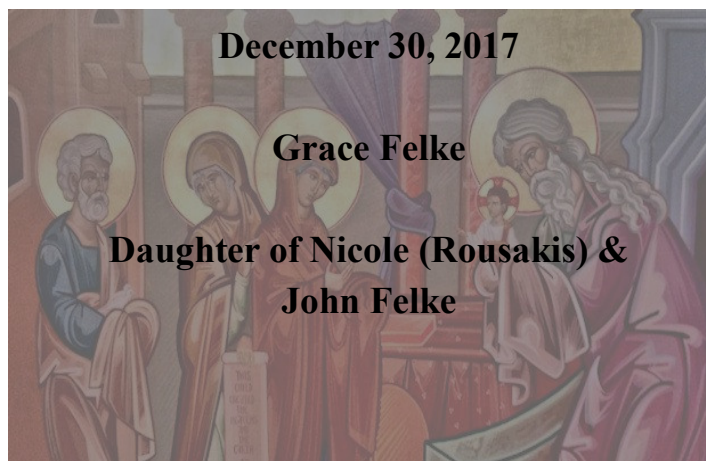
## Weddings:



## Funerals:



## 40-Day Blessings:



# Father Dimitri's Message

My Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

As we enter the month of February we still feel the bite of Winter, but have the expectation of Spring on the horizon. While this winter has not been as bitter as predicted it has left its mark in the coldness and the treacherousness of the elements. This danger, which forces us to be careful when driving should be analogous to our spiritual lives.

In the same way we exercise caution in these scenarios we should also have a care for our souls. It is perhaps for this very reason that the Church sees the Divine Necessity of Great Lent and prepares us for it during this Triodion Period. If we pay close attention to the Thematic Gospels of this period we will notice how our Mother Church encourages and prepares our souls for the Journey.

**Sunday of the Publican and Pharisee (Jan 28):** This Sunday showed us ***HOW WE ARE TO PRAY***. There is a great deal of praying in the time of Great Lent. So how should we be praying? Should we pray to ourselves as the Pharisee or pray for mercy as the Publican? Neither of these men are *good*, but what Jesus Christ wants us to take note of is their prayers. Our prayer life does not need to be full of empty words. It needs to be sincere and heartfelt.



**Sunday of the Prodigal Son (Feb 4):** This Sunday shows us ***HOW WE ARE TO REPENT***. One of the most important elements of Lent is repentance. But what does that mean? If we look at the story of the Prodigal Son, we see that he “came to himself” and then declared he would go to his father and declare his sins. We must do the same! We must realize our errors and then come back to the Church, to our Heavenly Father and declare our sins. Then we too will be welcome back as sons and daughters. Thanks be to God we have the Sacrament of Confession to aid us in this journey.

**Judgment Sunday (Feb 11):** This Sunday shows us ***HOW WE ARE TO GIVE***. The three tripods of Great Lent are Prayer, Fasting, and Almsgiving. Almsgiving is the heart of Christianity because we are called to take care of the “least” of God’s children. We must be prepared to give even to those who won’t appreciate it. One of the nasty side effects of fasting, when done inappropriately (Talk to your priest to do it right), is anger. The Aesthetical Fathers in the *Desert Fathers* teach us that one of the fastest ways to defeat this passion of anger is through giving to others. This can be done by increased stewardship and volunteer work.

**Forgiveness Sunday (February 18):** This Sunday shows us ***HOW WE ARE TO LIVE***. “If you forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father also will forgive you; but if you do not forgive men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses” (Matthew 6:14). It’s that simple. If we do not live our lives forgiving even our enemies, we will not enter the Kingdom. It is for this reason, we start Great Lent by forgiving all who have ever wronged us so that we may be clean as we begin the Fast.

**Sunday of Orthodoxy (February 25):** This Sunday shows us ***HOW WE ARE TO WORSHIP***. Orthodox means “Straight/Correct/Right Worship” The first Sunday of Great Lent shows us how the Church (big C, not little C) is the bastion of truth. “As the Prophets beheld, as the Apostles have taught, as the Church has received, as the Teachers have dogmatized, as the Universe has agreed, as Grace has shown forth, as Truth has revealed, as falsehood has been dissolved, as Wisdom has presented, as Christ has awarded, let us declare, let us assert, let us preach in like manner Christ our true God and honor His Saints in words, in writings, in thoughts, in deeds, in churches, in holy icons — worshiping Him as God and Lord and honoring them as His true servants of the master of all, and offering to them due veneration. **This is the Faith of the Apostles! This is the Faith of the Fathers! This is the Faith of the Orthodox! This is the Faith, which has established the Universe!**” – Proclamation of Sunday of Orthodoxy.



Let us pay attention during this period and truly listen to the Gospel passages of each of these thematic Sundays. If we do, we will avoid many pitfalls in our journey and we will be adequately prepared for the 40-day journey to Holy Week and the Resurrection of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

I remain your servant in Christ, Fr. Dimitri Tobias, *Proistamenos*



# OUR JOURNEY TO PASCHA! 2018

Created by Fr. Jonathan Bannon (ACROD)

| SUNDAYS  |   | THEMES / GOSPEL READING   | HOW TO PARTICIPATE:   |
|--|---|---|---|
| <b>Fast - Free Week</b><br><b>JANUARY 28th</b>                         |    | <b>TRIDION WEEKS</b><br><b>Publican and the Pharisee</b><br>Reading: 2 Timothy 3: 10-15<br>Gospel: Luke 18: 10-14                               | Trust in God, not yourself!<br>Ask for His help before every task this week!  |
| <b>Normal Fast Week</b><br><b>FEBRUARY 4th</b>                         |    | <b>The Prodigal Son Returns!</b><br>Reading: 1 Corinthians 6: 12-20<br>Gospel: Luke 15: 11-32   | Schedule a Confession.<br>Use up/freeze meats this week.  |
| <b>Meatfare</b><br><b>FEBRUARY 11th</b><br>FAREWELL TO MEAT TODAY      |    | <b>The Last Judgment</b><br>Reading: 1 Corinthians 8: 8-9: 2<br>Gospel: Matthew 25: 31-46   | Pray facing East this week.<br>Christ is returning from the East and we wait for Him!<br>Use up/freeze dairy this week. |
| <b>Cheesefare</b><br><b>FEBRUARY 18th</b><br>FAREWELL TO CHEESE TODAY  |    | <b>Adam and Eve are cast from Paradise!</b><br><b>FORGIVENESS SUNDAY</b><br>Reading: Romans 13: 11-14:4<br>Gospel: Matthew 6: 14-21             | Ask each other for forgiveness each evening this week before bed.   |
| <b>1st Sunday of Lent</b><br><b>FEBRUARY 25th</b>                      |   | <b>GREAT FAST BEGINS WITH FORGIVENESS VESPERS</b><br><b>SUNDAY of ORTHODOXY</b><br>Reading: Hebrews 11: 24-26, 32-12:2<br>Gospel: John 1: 43-51 | Bring an icon to church for a procession.   |
| <b>2nd Sunday of Lent</b><br><b>MARCH 4th</b>                          |  | <b>ST GREGORY PALAMAS</b><br>Reading: Hebrews 1:10-2:3<br>Gospel: Mark 2: 1-12  | Bring a prayer rope to be blessed today!<br>Use it and pray the Jesus Prayer each day this week.                        |
| <b>3rd Sunday of Lent</b><br><b>MARCH 11th</b>                         |  | <b>VENERATION OF THE HOLY CROSS</b><br><b>HALF WAY TO PASCHAI</b><br>Reading: Hebrews 4: 14-5: 6<br>Gospel: Mark 8:34-9: 1                      | Wear your cross to church and kiss the cross each morning with a bowl!  |
| <b>4th Sunday of Lent</b><br><b>MARCH 18th</b>                         |  | <b>ST JOHN of the LADDER</b><br>Reading: Hebrews: 6:13-20<br>Gospel: Mark 9: 17-31  | Every time you climb stairs this week ask St. John to help you reach Paradise with the sign of the cross!               |
| <b>5th Sunday of Lent</b><br><b>MARCH 25th</b>                         |  | <b>ST MARY of EGYPT</b><br>Reading: Hebrews 9: 11-14 & Heb 2:11-18<br>Gospel: Mark 10: 32-45 & LK 1:24-38                                       | Ask the Theotokos to offer you and the world pure thoughts and ideas this week.   |
| <b>FLOWERY (PALM) SUNDAY!</b><br><b>April 1st</b><br>GREAT WEEK BEGINS |  | <b>GREAT AND HOLY WEEK</b><br><b>ENTRY OF OUR LORD INTO JERUSALEM</b><br>Reading: Philippians 4: 4-9<br>Gospel: John 12: 1-18                   | Place your palm branches and pussywillows behind an icon at home and in your car!                                       |
| <b>GREAT AND HOLY FRIDAY</b><br><b>APRIL 6th</b>                       |  | <b>GREAT AND HOLY FRIDAY</b><br><b>JESUS DIES ON THE CROSS</b><br>CHECK WITH YOUR PARISH FOR ROYAL HOURS AND VESPERS SCHEDULE                   | Refrain from TV, Internet, & Phones to honor Christ's Death.  |
| <b>FEAST OF FEASTS!</b><br><b>APRIL 8th</b><br>NO FASTING!             |  | <b>BRIGHT WEEK</b><br><b>HOLY PASCHA! (CHRIST IS RISEN!)</b><br>Epistle: Acts 1:1-8 Gospel: John 1: 1-17  | Greet everyone with "CHRIST IS RISEN!" & say it before good morning and goodnight!                                      |

## President's Letter

By Jayme Schenk

Greetings and Happy New Year to all St. Basil Parishioners.

I'm very humbled and excited to take over as parish president following Tom Sianis' term. I want to thank Tom for his tenure as Parish Council President this past year and all of his hard work. I'd also like to echo Tom's sentiments in thanking Father Panteleimon Dalianis for his seven years of service at St. Basil, and leading us through the magnificent rebuilding of our parish. We wish Father and his family all the best. Additionally, I would also like to welcome Father Dimitri Tobias, Presbytera Mary, and their son Vasili to our parish.

On January 7, 2018, Father Dimitri blessed the Chicago River. Approximately 40 parishioners from St. Basil braved the cold to participate in the event. This was a first for our parish, and we received excellent coverage from local news stations, including ABC 7 and NBC 5.

I'd like to invite everyone back to our Super Bash, held at the Billy Goat Tavern on February 4. We haven't held this event for a few years, and this one promises to be a good time for all. And also, remind everyone of our Apokreatiko Glendi on February 11, immediately following Divine Liturgy. This is a wonderful chance to enjoy fellowship before the start of Great Lent. Stay warm, spring is right around the corner!

Jayme Schenk, Parish Council President



## Philoptochos Update

By Vana Kikos

St. Basil Philoptochos is off and running and looking forward to a joyous and productive 2018!

On Sunday, January 7, a one-year memorial Coffee Hour was held in memory of Marian Papas, a woman whose faith and involvement in our Philoptochos continues to be an inspiration to us all. May her memory be eternal.

We held our first meeting of the new year on Sunday, January 14, following church services, and our next meeting is scheduled for Sunday, February 4.

On February 4, all proceeds from Coffee Hour will be used to purchase sheet sets for the Lincoln Park Homeless Shelter.

On Sunday, February 25th a special collection tray will be at the back of the church following services for your donations to the national Orthodox Christian Prison Ministry (proceeds will be shared with the St. Basil Prison Ministry).

February is Heart Health Month, and on the 25th, Philoptochos will hold a "Go Red" (or wear red) day to foster awareness of women's heart disease, the number one killer of women. Following Divine Liturgy, physician parishioner Dr. Marina Arvanitis will be performing blood pressure testing and our parishioner and cardiologist, Dr. Gerasim Tikoff, will provide us with a presentation. Please join us on this special day!

Thank You— Very Best Regards,  
Vana Kikos, Philoptochos President



# Girl's Ministry

By Mary Peroulas

From the very beginning, women have been among the most important disciples of the Lord and Holy Saints of the Holy Church of Christ. We were so grateful to have Christina Stavros Kidonakis, MDiv, C.Byz.Mus. recently share her thoughts with us on "Women in the Church".

While there is much discuss on this subject, for our first session, Christina talked about her own journey from a little girl who loved Jesus and sang very loudly in church to a young woman who, because of her love for God, pursued the study of religion, theological and Byzantine music, and ultimately, parish ministry in the Orthodox Church. Christina shared how the Theotokos--the woman who is central to Orthodox spirituality--is the model Christian for all and the first evangelist of the Church. She is the one who said "Yes!" to God and gave birth to the One who is the Good News--Jesus Christ our Lord, God and Savior.

Christina also talked about her role in the church as a chanter. She studied Byzantine music at Holy Cross Greek Orthodox School of Theology and was the first female to be certified as a chanter in the Greek Orthodox Church in America. She taught the girls the apolytikion (hymn) for the feast of the Birth of the Theotokos (September 8). They caught on quickly and chanted heartily! She also taught them a song about following the example of the Theotokos and saying "Yes!" to the Lord.

We are all called to play a very important role in Christ's Holy Church. Christina's discussion helped and encouraged our girls to know that they are created in the image and likeness of God, to see the many ways they are able to glorify Him in their life, and how they will have an important role as leaders in our Holy Church. We look forward to Christina's next session with us as we dive deeper into the topic of "Women in the Church."

Thank you Christina for the love, joy and kindness you give to us and for all you do for St Basil Church!





## **February 2: The Presentation of our Lord into the Temple**

When the most pure Mother and Ever-Virgin Mary's forty days of purification had been fulfilled, she took her first-born Son to Jerusalem on this, the fortieth day after His birth, that she might present Him in the temple according

to the Law of Moses, which teaches that every first-born male child be dedicated to God, and also that she might offer the sacrifice of a pair of turtle-doves or two young pigeons, as required by the Law (Luke 2:22-24; Exod. 13:2; Lev. 12:6-8). On this same day, a just and devout man, the greatly aged Symeon, was also present in the temple, being guided by the Holy Spirit. For a long time, this man had been awaiting the salvation of God, and he had been informed by divine revelation that he would not die until he beheld the Lord's Christ. Thus, when he beheld Him at that time and took Him up into his aged arms, he gave glory to God, singing: "Now lettest Thou Thy servant depart in peace, O Master. . ." And he confessed that he would close his eyes joyfully, since he had seen the Light of revelation for the nations and the Glory of Israel (Luke 2:25-32). From ancient times, the Holy Church has retained this tradition of the churching of the mother and newborn child on the fortieth day and of the reading of prayers of purification.

The Apodosis of the Feast of the Meeting in the Temple is usually on the 9th of February. This, however, may vary if the Feast falls within the period of the Triodion. Should this occur, the Typicon should be consulted for specific information concerning the Apodosis of the Feast.

### **Apolytikion in the First Tone**

Hail Virgin Theotokos full of Grace, for Christ our God, the Sun of Righteousness, has dawned from you, granting light to those in darkness. And you, O Righteous Elder, rejoice, taking in your arms, the Deliverance of our souls, who grants us Resurrection.

### **Kontakion in the First Tone**

Your birth sanctified a Virgin's womb and properly blessed the hands of Symeon. Having now come and saved us O Christ our God, give peace to Your commonwealth in troubled times and strengthen those in authority, whom You love, as only the loving One.



## **February 8: St. Theodore the Commander and Great Martyr**

The holy Martyr Theodore was from Euchaita of Galatia and dwelt in Heraclea of Pontus. He was a renowned commander in the military, and the report came to the Emperor Licinius that he was a Christian and abominated the idols.

Licinius therefore sent certain men to him from Nicomedia, to honor him and ask him to appear before him. Through them, however, Saint Theodore sent back a message that it was necessary for various reasons, that Licinius come to Heraclea. Licinius, seeing in this a hope of turning Saint Theodore away from Christ, did as was asked of him.

When the Emperor came to Heraclea, Saint Theodore met him with honor, and the Emperor in turn gave Theodore his hand, believing that through him he would be able to draw the Christians to the worship of his idols. Seated upon his throne in the midst of the people, he publicly bade Theodore offer sacrifice to the gods. But Theodore asked that the Emperor entrust him with the most venerable of his gods, those of gold and silver, that he might take them home and himself attend upon them that evening, promising that the following day he would honor them in public. The Emperor, filled with joy at these tidings, gave command that Theodore's request be fulfilled.

When the Saint had taken the idols home, he broke them in pieces and distributed the gold and silver to the poor by night. The next day a centurion named Maxentius told Licinius that he had seen a pauper pass by carrying the head of Artemis. Saint Theodore, far from repenting of this, confessed Christ boldly. Licinius, in an uncontainable fury, had the Saint put to many torments, then crucified. While upon the cross, the holy Martyr was further tormented -- his privy parts were cut off, he was shot with arrows, his eyes were put out, and he was left on the cross to die. The next day Licinius sent men to take his corpse and cast it into the sea; but they found the Saint alive and perfectly whole. Through this, many believed in Christ. Seeing his own men turning to Christ, and the city in an uproar, Licinius had Theodore beheaded, about the year 320. The Saint's holy relics were returned to his ancestral home on June 8, which is also a feast of the Great Martyr Theodore.



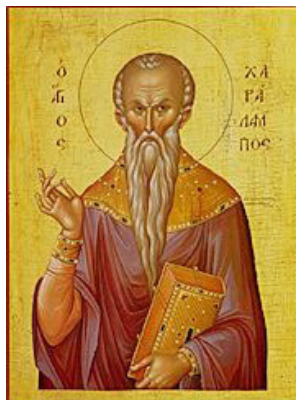
### **Apolytikion in the Fourth Tone**

In truth enlisted with the King of the Heavens, thou didst become.

for Him a noble commander, O trophy-bearer and Great Martyr Theodore. With the weaponry of faith didst thou arm thyself wisely and didst utterly destroy all the hordes of the demons, as a triumphant athlete of the Lord; wherefore we ever do faithfully call thee blest.

### **Kontakion in the Second Tone**

In courage of soul, and furnished with the arms of faith, thou tookest in hand the word of God as though a spear and didst put thy foe to flight, thou great boast of martyrs, O Theodore; now together with them, O Saint, cease not to entreat Christ our God for all of us.



### **February 10:**

#### **St. Haralambos**

This Saint was a priest of the Christians in Magnesia, the foremost city of Thessaly, in the diocese having the same name. He contested during the reign of Alexander Severus (222-235), when Lucian was Proconsul of Magnesia. At the time of his mar-

tyrdom the Saint was 103 years of age.

St. Haralambos is commemorated on February 10, with the exception when this date falls on the Saturday of the Souls preceding Lent or on Clean Monday (the first day of Lent), in which case the feast is celebrated on February 9.

### **Apolytikion in the Fourth Tone**

O wise Haralambos, you were proven an unshakable pillar of the Church of Christ; an ever-shining lamp of the universe. You shone in the world by your martyrdom. You delivered us from the moonless night of idolatry O blessed one. Wherefore, boldly intercede to Christ that we may be saved.

### **Kontakion in the Fourth Tone**

O Priest-martyr, athlete, champion Haralambos, your relics are a priceless treasure of the Church. Wherefore she rejoices, glorifying the Creator.



### **February 26: The Holy Great Martyr Photine, the Samaritan Woman**

Saint Photine was the Samaritan woman who encountered Christ our Saviour at Jacob's Well (John 4:1-42). Afterwards she laboured in the spread of the Gospel in various places, and finally received the crown of martyrdom in Rome with her two sons and five

sisters, during the persecutions under the Emperor Nero.

### **Apolytikion in the Third Tone**

All illumined by the Holy Spirit, thou didst drink with great and ardent longing of the waters Christ Saviour gave unto thee; and with the streams of salvation wast thou refreshed, which thou abundantly gavest to those athirst. O Great Martyr and true peer of Apostles, Photine, entreat Christ God to grant great mercy unto us.

### **Kontakion in the Third Tone**

Photine the glorious, the crown and glory of the Martyrs, hath this day ascended to the shining mansions of Heaven, and she calleth all together to sing her praises, that they might be recompensed with her hallowed graces. Let us all with faith and longing extol her gladly in hymns of triumph and joy.

## Someone You Should Know

By Pat Cole

Jennifer Georgopoulos thanks her husband, Nick, for bringing her into the Greek Orthodox faith. Raised Catholic, Jen converted when she and Nick began dating, some fifteen years ago. Today she is the director of St. Basil's Sunday school program and the mother of three boys. Sons Tom and Peter are altar boys, and Stavros is an aspiring altar boy, learning the Creed by heart. Nick is on the parish council. The whole family is active in the life of the parish.

There are a few reasons why Jen loves the Orthodox faith. She notes that Greek is the original language of Christianity and that the gospels were originally written in Greek. And, she says, the fact that Orthodox priests are allowed to marry helps them understand the issues of ordinary people living in the real world. Perhaps that's why so many Orthodox churches have a rich array of youth programs. She chose St. Basil Church to be her spiritual home because of its proximity to Chinatown, where she grew up. "I wanted a parish that would allow me to stay connected to my geographic roots." She also appreciates the diversity of the parish, with many couples of mixed ethnic heritage, and the celebration of the liturgy in both Greek and English.

The Georgopoulos family lives on Chicago's Northwest Side. Jen and Nick are both school teachers. Jen is a substitute elementary school teacher in the Chicago Public School system, and Nick teaches eighth grade language arts in the Chicago suburbs. Motherhood and an active career keep Jen busy, but in her spare time she enjoys working out to stay fit and cooking healthy meals for her family.



## Dress-A-Girl

By Dorothy Bezemes & Helene Frankos

The St. Basil Philoptochos' "*Dress a Girl around the World*" ministry first wishes to express their excitement for the new publication "*Ouranophantor*." Although there will be times that we don't submit, we look forward to reading and encouraging all the other ministries in their endeavors.

What is "*Dress a Girl around the World*," and why are we so passionate in our work? One of our most poignant and heartbreaking memories was when we saw a poster of a little girl in her new dress with the caption: "*This may be the only new dress this little girl will ever own.*"

To date we have made approximately 1500 dresses, and about 350 pair of boys pants. In the pocket of the clothes we make is a pair of underwear, and an encouraging handwritten note from our own Girl's Ministry. When we sent the shipment to Corpus Christie for victims of Hurricane Harvey we bought t-shirts and socks to include. We have sent dresses/pants to Haiti, Zambia, Philippines, Kenya, and India, along with reaching out to any catastrophic happening here in the USA.

Our first delivery for 2018 included 79 dresses and 26 pair of pants that went to India. Our own personal missionary (Karen), who is not only a relative to some, but a friend to all, is allowed to carry on 70 additional pounds when traveling to India. She chooses to take our dresses and pants. In the note to us about this trip she tells us that the children's shoes were torn, and she plans to provide socks for them next time. Before she left for India she and her family bought long sleeved t-shirts for each article of clothing.

Our ministry has also reached others that have heard about us. One lady from Pennsylvania has sent boxes of beautiful material for us to use; one other has sewn from her home and delivered them to us, and one of our local churches has designated DAG as their Lenten project.

Please mark your calendars and join us on Saturday, October 13, 2018, in our Philoptochos Hall for our Metropolis sew-a-thon. More information will be sent out at a later date.

In Christ's love,  
Dorothy & Helene  
Co-chairs

*"If God brings you to it, God will bring you through it"*



# Sunday School

By Jennifer Georgopoulos

The Sunday School is excited for Lent which is fast approaching. The students will be receiving Lenten Passports. These booklets are a great enrichment tool for the children and serve as a guide through the journey of Great Lent. These booklets explain the importance of Great Compline on Mondays, Pre-Sanctified Liturgies and Akathist services on Friday evenings. The children enjoy the passports especially when the students receive a sticker which is an icon for participating in the many activities of Great Lent.

The Sunday School will also be participating in the Sacrament of Holy Confession during the month of March. The dates are below:

K-1st grades- March 25, 2018

2nd-4th grades- March 18, 2018

5th-7th grades- March 6, 2018

Parents we will need your help to prepare the children for the Sacrament of Holy Confession. [Preparation for Holy Confession - Prayer & Spiritual Life - Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America](#) is a great resource and reviews the Ten Commandments.

## Sunday School Grades K-1st

- ◇ The class has been discussing the Divine Liturgy and the Baptism of Jesus. The children also enjoyed learning about Holy Water and how Father Dimitri uses the Holy Water to bless our homes. The class has been creating beautiful drawings and cut-outs of icons.

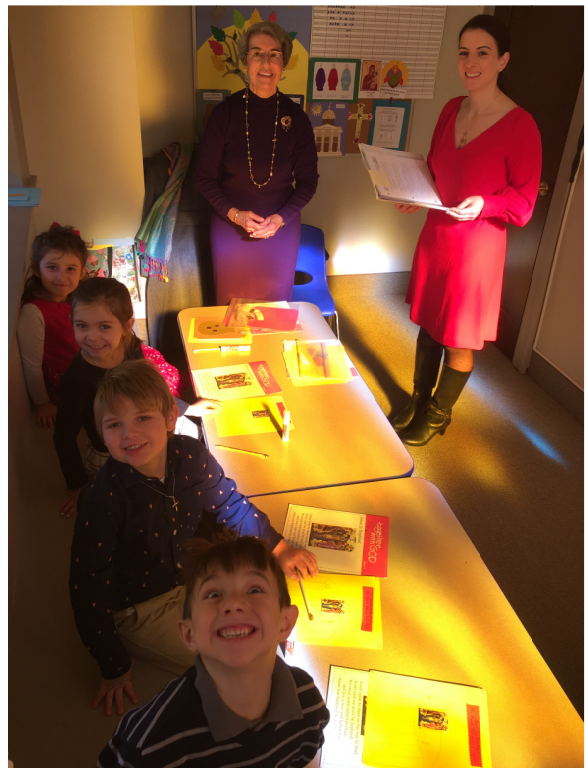
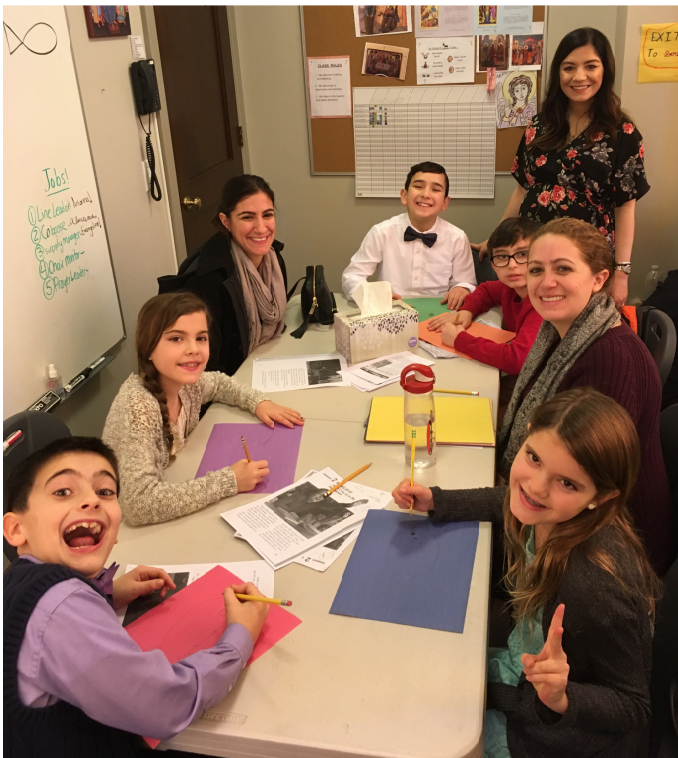
## Grades 2nd-4th

- ◇ We began the year discussing St. Basil The Great and the sharing of the Vasilopita. We have also been reading passages from The Holy Bible about St. John The Baptist in Matthew Chapter 13.

## Grades 5th-7th

- ◇ The class has been studying Trisagion Prayers. The children have been learning about the cycle and the terminology used to describe such prayers. They also have been discussing Holy Communion. Students have also been referring to the scriptures to discuss St. Paul and his teaching to the Corinthians.

A special thanks to the Sunday School teachers for all their hard-work and dedication to the children. If you have any questions please contact Jennifer Georgopoulos at [jenspalla75@sbcglobal.net](mailto:jenspalla75@sbcglobal.net).



# **Blessing of the Chicago River**

On January 7, 2018, Father Dimitri blessed the Chicago River

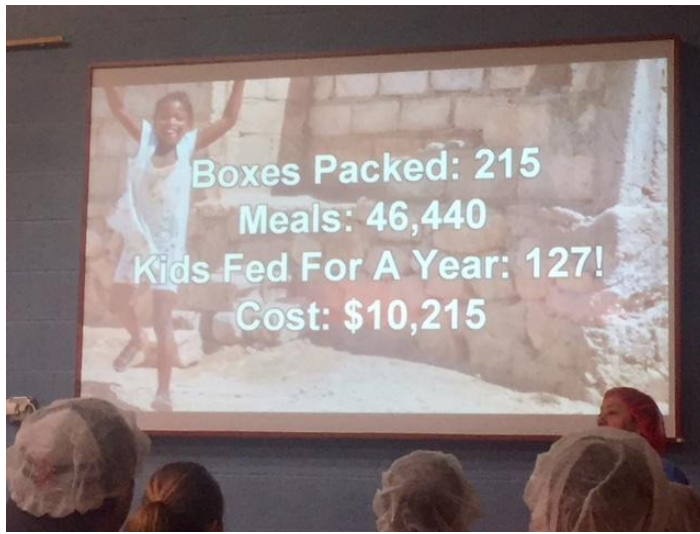




# Feed My Starving Children

By Stella Kapetan

On Saturday, January 27, 32 parishioners volunteered to pack an incredible 4,752 meals at the FMSC's Schaumburg facility. The meals are specially formulated for malnourished children and were sent to orphanages, medical clinics and schools in Nicaragua, one of the 70 countries FMSC serves. Thank you to all who participated, especially our parish's children, who were instrumental in the day's success.



## Coffee Hour Ministry

The Coffee Hour Ministry at St. Basil allows parishioners the opportunity to host Coffee Hour twice a month. It's a great way to get involved and promote fellowship at St. Basil while getting to know one another better.

We are looking for volunteers to either host a Coffee Hour or participate in hosting one of our Quarterly Pot Luck Luncheons with a team of other parishioners. We still have a few open dates available for 2018. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact the Church office details at [312-243-3738](tel:312-243-3738).

|                 |  |
|-----------------|--|
| Sun February 4  | Coffee Hour: Stella Kapetan & Pat Cole |
| Sun February 11 | Coffee Hour: Philoptochos              |
| Sun February 18 | Coffee Hour: Kat Lekkas                |
| Sun February 25 | Coffee Hour: Philoptochos              |

## Stewardship

### HAVE YOU BECOME A STEWARD OF ST. BASIL CHURCH?

Visit our website at [www.stbasilchicago.org](http://www.stbasilchicago.org) and click on “Our Parish” and “Stewardship” to learn more or contact Church Office at 312-243-3738 for additional information.

*For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.*





| Sunday   | Monday  | Tuesday   | Wednesday  | Thursday  | Friday  | Saturday  |
|--|---|---|--|---|---|---|
| <b>28</b><br>8:15 am<br>10:30 am<br><b>No Fasting</b><br>Orthros and Divine Liturgy<br>Sunday School meets   | <b>29</b><br>7:00 pm<br><b>No Fasting</b><br>Great Vespers for Three Hierarchs  | <b>30</b><br>8:30 am<br><b>No Fasting</b><br>Orthros and Divine Liturgy for Synaxis of the Three Hierarch: Basil the Great, Gregory the Theologian, and John Chrysostom | <b>31</b><br><b>No Fasting</b>   | <b>1</b><br><b>No Fasting</b><br>No Weddings/Baptisms Permitted | <b>2</b><br><b>Memorials Not Permitted</b><br><b>No Fasting</b><br>No Weddings/Baptisms Permitted<br>8:30 am<br>Orthros and Divine Liturgy for Presentation of Christ into the Temple | <b>3</b><br><b>No Fasting</b>   |
| <b>4</b><br>8:15 am<br>10:30 am<br>4:00 pm<br><b>No Fasting</b><br>Orthros and Divine Liturgy<br>Sunday School meets<br>Super Bowl Bash at Billy Goat  | <b>5</b><br>7:00 pm<br>Parish Council Meeting   | <b>6</b>  | <b>7</b><br>6:00 pm<br>Paraklesis (Supplication Service) to the Virgin Mary  | <b>8</b>  | <b>9</b><br>7:00 pm<br>Great Vespers for St. Haralambos (at Niles parish)   | <b>10</b><br>8:30 am<br>Orthros and Divine Liturgy for St. Haralambos with the 1st Saturday of Souls<br>Ylaysia's Kouzina Baking  |
| <b>11</b><br>8:15 am<br>10:30 am<br>12:00 pm<br>Orthros and Divine Liturgy<br>Sunday School meets<br>Apokreatiko Glendi  | <b>12</b><br><b>Cheese-fare Week</b>  | <b>13</b><br><b>Cheese-fare Week</b>  | <b>14</b><br>6:00 pm<br>Paraklesis (Supplication Service) to the Virgin Mary | <b>15</b><br><b>Cheese-fare Week</b>                            | <b>16</b><br><b>Cheese-fare Week</b>  | <b>17</b><br>8:30 am<br>11:30 am<br><b>Cheese-fare Week</b><br>Orthros and Divine Liturgy for 2nd Saturday of the Souls<br>Ylaysia's Kouzina Baking   |
| <b>18</b><br>8:15 am<br>10:30 am<br>6:00 pm<br><b>Cheese-fare</b><br>Orthros and Divine Liturgy<br>Sunday School meets<br>Forgiveness Vespers  | <b>19</b><br><b>Fasting Days</b><br><b>Clean Monday (first day of Great Lent)</b><br>6:00 pm<br>Great Compline with first part of Canon of St. Andrew of Crete - followed by Lenten meal and fellowship | <b>20</b><br>6:00 pm<br><b>Fasting Days</b><br>Great Compline with second part of Canon of St. Andrew of Crete  | <b>21</b><br>6:00 pm<br><b>Fasting Days</b><br>Presanctified Liturgy         | <b>22</b><br><b>Fasting Days</b>                                | <b>23</b><br>6:00 pm<br><b>Fasting Days</b><br>1st Salutations to the Virgin Mary   | <b>24</b><br>8:30 am<br>11:30 am<br><b>Fasting Days</b><br>Orthros and Divine Liturgy for 1st and 2nd finding of the head of St. John the Baptist<br>Orthros and Divine Liturgy for 3rd Saturday of the Souls<br>Ylaysia's Kouzina Baking |
| <b>25</b><br>8:15 am<br>10:00 am<br>10:30 am<br>12:00 pm<br><b>Fasting Days</b><br>Orthros and Divine Liturgy<br>Sunday School will process for Sunday of Orthodoxy<br>Sunday School meets<br>Prison Ministry Easter card writing to inmates | <b>26</b><br><b>Fasting Days</b>  | <b>27</b><br><b>Fasting Days</b>  | <b>28</b><br>6:00 pm<br><b>Fasting Days</b><br>Presanctified Liturgy         |   |   |   |

ST. BASIL ***SUPER BASH*** IS BACK!



**Sunday, February 4**

Billy Goat Tavern  
1535 W. Madison ~ Chicago

Doors open at 4:00pm

Kick-off at 5:30pm

Ticket price of \$75 per/person  
includes Food, Drinks and Open Bar

*And the  
Winners are...*

**Raffle prizes**

Squares  
(be there or be square!)

**50/50 Cash Raffle**



You may pay by check or credit card by calling the church office at:  
312-243-3738. Credit card payments are also accepted via PAYPAL  
at: [www.Stbasilchicago.org](http://www.Stbasilchicago.org)



*Thank you for supporting St. Basil Greek Orthodox Church!*

 **ST. BASIL FAMILY Presents!**

# **OLD FASHION APOKREATIKO GLENDI**

**When:** February 11<sup>th</sup>, 2018 – After Liturgy

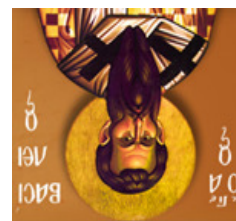
**Where:** Philoptochos Hall (at St. Basil)

**Cost:** Adults: \$25

Children 13 and under: \$10

Kids Entertainment, Greek and American Dancing, Food and Fellowship

**Please call the church office for Reservations 773-243-3738**



Chicago, IL 60607

733 South Ashland Ave.

**St. Basil Greek Orthodox Church**